



## Association of Food Industries, Inc.

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June 21, 2012

The Honorable Dave Camp  
Chairman  
Committee on Ways and Means  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sander Levin  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Ways and Means  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Camp and Ranking Member Levin:

On behalf of the Association of Food Industries (AFI), I write to express our support for H.R. 5274, a bill that would extend the expiring duty elimination on pepperoncini not preserved by vinegar or frozen. This growing gastronomic staple is found only in regions outside of the U.S. so there are no U.S. domestic producers. Reduction of duties on this product helps decrease the costs to the consumer.

AFI is a trade association consisting of more than 800 companies worldwide involved in the U.S. food business, including 400 located domestically in the United States. Many of our member companies in the U.S. are importing the product described in this bill and distributing it to stores and consumers throughout the country.

Successful passage of MTB legislation this year will continue to allow AFI companies to pass duty savings downstream to U.S. retailers and consumers, ensuring that prices remain competitive. AFI has been an active participant of the MTB process in years past and we have witnessed the tremendous positive impact these duty saving provisions have upon small- and medium-sized businesses and consumers. While we recognize the MTB process is ongoing, we urge you to work towards ensuring passage of MTB legislation before the end of this year.

Sincerely,

Bob Bauer  
President